

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 01395 260530Z

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-15 AID-05 NSC-05

EPG-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

/070 W

-----260638Z 049794 /10

R 251522Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2766

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

DEPT OF AGRICULTURE

UNCLAS PRAGUE 1395

AGRICULTURE FAS FOR F & O

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, CZ

SUBJ: CZECHOSLOVAK SOYBEAN MEAL REQUIREMENTS DECLINE IN 1977

1. ON MAY 24 AGATT MET KOOSPOL OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS LATEST SOYBEAN MEAL SITUATION FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA. FOLLOWING ARE MAJOR POINTS MADE DURING DISCUSSION.

2. SOYBEAN MEAL IMPORTS IN 1977 ARE ESTIMATED AROUND 500,000 TONS, NEARLY 10 PERCENT BELOW RECORD VOLUME IMPORTED IN 1976. THIS ASSUMES UNUSUALLY SEVERE WEATHER IN 1976 (DROUGHT) WILL NOT REPEAT ITSELF.

3. TOTAL CZECHOSLOVAK SOYBEAN MEAL IMPORTS IN 1976 WAS EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH AT 542,00 MT, UP FROM 512,000 MT IN 1975. THE HEAVIER THAN USUAL APPLICATION OF SOYBEAN MEAL IN LIVESTOCK FEEDING WAS DUE TO SHORTAGE OF GRAIN BECAUSE OF THE DROUGHT.

4. IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. IN 1977 ARE EXPECTED TO BE AROUND 300,000 MT, DOWN FROM 346,000 MT IN 1976 AND 324,000 MT IN 1975. COMPETITION FROM BRAZILIAN MEAL HAS NOT YET AFFECTED U.S. UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 PRAGUE 01395 260530Z

SALES DESPITE CERTAIN PRICE ADVANTAGES OF BRAZILIAN MEALS. CZECHOSLOVAKS CAN BUY 48 PERCENT PF BRAZILIAN MEAL AT ABOUT SAME PRICE AS U.S. 44 PERCENT PF MEAL. OFFICIALS POINTED OUT HOWEVER CZECHOSLOVAKIA INTENDS TO MAINTAIN EARLIER ESTABLISHED TIES WITH U.S. SELLERS DESPITE PRICE ADVANTAGES OF OTHER MEALS.

5. KOOSPOL WELL AWARE BRAZIL IS USING SOME KIND EXPORT SUBSIDY

TO MAKE ITS MEAL MORE COMPETITIVE IN WORLD MARKETS. BUT THEY ALSO
SAID THAT THESE PRICE ADVANTAGES RUN ONLY DURING CERTAIN TIMES
OF YEAR, USUALLY AFTER HARVEST WHEN MEAL TENDS TO BE PLENTIFUL.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, IMPORTS, SOYBEANS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 25-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770188-0092
Format: TEL
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770519/aaaaaqhj.tel
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Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2373270
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CZECHOSLOVAK SOYBEAN MEAL REQUIREMENTS DECLINE IN 1977
TAGS: EAGR, CZ, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3953498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009